

# The Frail Little Lad who Inherits — The Vast Field Fortune.

By the Death of His Grandfather, Marshall Field III Becomes the Head of the House, Succeeding to a Commercial Empire That Is a Mighty Factor in the Business World.

THE NAPOLEON of the World of Commerce is dead, and the "L'Aiglon" who inherits his name and fortune is a frail, somber-browed lad of twelve.

When Marshall Field, sr., died in New York on January 16, he left a record which will not be duplicated for centuries. From a clerk in a dry goods store in a small New England village to the merchant prince of Chicago, operating branch stores in every quarter of the globe, is an epigrammatic history of this man's business career. But this does not tell the story of Marshall Field's gifts of heart and mind, and of how he endeared himself to the citizens of Chicago, his adopted home. It does not analyze the business judgment, which made his success possible. Further, it gives no idea of his generosity, and of his business precepts, which have been the mottoes for many young men who have risen rapidly in the world as a result of his admonition and advice.

## Succeeds to Commercial Empire.

Marshall Field III inherits the name and the fortune of Marshall Field I, but does he inherit those essentials of character which were the foundation of the great merchant's success? Does this boy, who succeeds to a commercial empire as vast and as multitudinous in its complexities as the national empire to which the little Duke of Reichstadt laid claim upon the death of his father, Napoleon the Great, possess those elements of greatness which will enable him to hold intact the mammoth interests left him? Or will Marshall Field III prove another eaglet, strong in desire, but too weak in body and will to grasp the power and the possibilities that lie waiting for a master hand and a master mind? Will the vast empire of commerce, which has been created by the genius of a single brain, be dismembered and decimated, as were the political kingdoms of Alexander and Napoleon, for want of a dictator? Time alone can tell.

Marshall Field III gives promise of developing all those qualities which distinguished his grandfather. Though only twelve years of age he has shown that he has those kindly traits which were among the foremost characteristics of the eldest Field.

The new Marshall Field is the oldest child of Marshall Field, jr., and Mrs. Albertine Huck Field. He bears a striking resemblance to his grandfather. His brow is broad and his forehead is high. His eyes are rather deep set and indicate a reserve strength, together with determination and keen judgment. They have the steady glow which marked the elder Field as a man of distinction and caused people to turn and gaze at him after he had passed, though they did not recognize him as the merchant prince. In the delicate, pinched features of the boy are all the clean cut lines of the man whose place he must take in the world of business.

In many respects this boy is to be pitied, although he possesses enormous wealth, and a position of prominence in the social as well as the financial world. In the first place it was only two months ago that he sustained one of the greatest losses that can befall a child. His father was accidentally shot almost before his very eyes. Father and son had been playing together only a few moments before Marshall Field, jr., sustained a pistol wound which resulted in his death a few days later. The shock to the boy can be imagined. He was devoted to his father and they had always been boon companions.

## Showed Great Fortitude.

The boy visited the hospital daily with his mother. During these brief glimpses of his father, who was rapidly sinking, the boy did not give way to any outbursts of passionate grief, but seemed to realize that he must bear his sorrow with fortitude in order to sustain his mother who was heartbroken and almost prostrated by the shock. The death of Marshall Field, jr., cast a deep gloom over the child's

life, from which he had not recovered when this second blow came, for the death of his grandfather is a real grief to him, as the two were devoted to each other, the merchant centering all his affections on his grandson after the death of his own boy.

These two great sorrows are not the only ones which now shadow the life of Marshall Field III. He will in time outgrow those, or at least they will eventually become but solemn memo-

ries. There is something else which seems destined to cloud his entire life. He is extremely frail, and from his babyhood his mother and father almost despaired of his reaching maturity. Time and again he has gone through severe illnesses which have tried the best medical skill in America.



MARSHALL FIELD

After recovering from a recent serious illness, he was taken to the South to recuperate, and later he was carried through southern Europe until his strength had been in part restored. To add to his natural delicacy of health, he sustained a serious fall while riding with his father two years ago over the estate of former Ambassador Choate, near Pittsfield, Mass. He hovered near death for weeks, and surgeons of international renown were summoned to attend him. He finally recovered sufficiently to be taken home, where he suffered a collapse and again approached death. His grandfather hastened from New York where he was attending a conference of millionaire stockholders in the Chicago street railways. Upon his arrival in Chicago, he spent sleepless nights at the boy's bedside until all danger was over. This injury has added to his natural weakness.

## A Favorable Omen.

While these physical shortcomings may affect his enjoyment of life, his grandfather was accustomed to say that it was a favorable omen, for were not Julius Caesar and Napoleon, children with weakly bodies, and did not Alexander Pope achieve greatness though he was always in delicate health. Alexander Stephens, one of the South's greatest statesmen, throughout his entire life had to carry on a ceaseless combat against disease. The old saying that Hercules in a rotten boat is powerless, has been disproven time and again. The great thinker and philosopher, Aristotle, was always infirm in body. It would seem that nature compensated these spirits by endowing them with unusual intellects

because they had been deprived of robust bodies. Thus Marshall Field sr. predicted that his grandson would some day achieve greatness in spite of his delicate constitution.

No other boy of his age has seen as much of the world as has the new Marshall Field. His parents were globe-trotters most of their married life. Marshall Field, jr., like his son, was never blessed with a robust constitution. The family visited Germany, Italy, Switzerland, and France year after year, seeking the balmy climates and the most enjoyable pleasure resorts. They were frequently to be seen in London during the summer season when the fogs are not trying and the air is dry. They spent very little of their time in Chicago, as the winters were entirely too severe. Occasionally their handsome home on

lodge to this millionaire youth, whose lot in one respect is far happier than the vast majority of children of wealthy parents.

## Inherits a "Clean" Fortune.

Marshall Field III is heir to more than millions. He has the good will and the hearty wishes of every man and woman in Chicago, and of countless thousands throughout the country who are familiar with the career of his grandfather. The merchant prince made his fortune in a morally as well as a legally legitimate way. There are no walls of orphans whom he has impoverished, and no execrations of widows whom he has despoiled, to follow the child who comes after him.

Instead of falling heir to curses and maledictions, as is so often the case with successors to the fortunes of modern millionaires, Marshall Field's record is clean. Clergy join with laity in praising the man and his methods.

chums, though they differ materially in temperament. Marshall is serious, and inclined to be melancholy, especially since the death of his father in November, while Henry has a typically boyish disposition, which as yet makes any estimate of his abilities entirely problematic. During the past year or two the boys have been separated, as Henry has been at school in the East, while Marshall has been pursuing his studies under the guidance of tutors.

## Faces Heavy Responsibilities.

Much will be expected of Marshall Field III; much, indeed, will be demanded. The world will scarcely be satisfied with anything less than the same noble characteristics and sterling business qualities which brought a phenomenal fortune to his grandfather. Among other things people will look to find these traits in the boy as he grows up, traits which are said to have been the keystones of the first

Marshall Field's success; he had no time for frivolity, dissipated imitation, had no political ambitions, was of few words and his phrases were incisive, he was sparing of verbal commendation, but quick to appreciate the good points in others, and was a consummate judge of men. To all these qualities may be added the facts that he was an originator of ideas, was a powerful organizer, capable of inspiring confidence, and was a great believer in and patron of education.

It is hardly just to the young boy who has so suddenly come into the limelight of publicity to expect him to develop at once these manifold characteristics, but the world has never been noted for its justice.

A position of great influence has been prepared for Marshall Field III. He will have in his employ a force numbering tens of thousands, for the retail and dry goods stores of Marshall Field & Co., of Chicago, are the largest of their kind in the world. Not only these men and women will be subject to his orders, but there are hundreds of manufacturing concerns throughout the world which are operated exclusively for this firm. When the business grew to its present enormous proportions it was found necessary to establish factories in order that the supply would always be equal to the demand. Laces from Italy, rugs from Turkey, silks from Persia and China, are imported to this mammoth concern, and the factories which send them forth are subject to the orders of Marshall Field's heir.

An enormous burden of responsibility,

as well as a vast fortune, has descended to this frail lad of twelve years. And many keen eyes will watch his development into manhood. For the Field fortune is a factor that demands respectful attention from the business world and the new head of the Field family must soon be reckoned with in the councils of America's kings of finance.

## Odd Decisions by American Courts

The drawee of a draft upon which the indorsement of the payee and his signature to a bill of sale on the back, which is the consideration of the acceptance of the instrument, are forged, who pays it in ignorance of the forgery upon its presentation bearing the indorsement of the collecting bank, is held, in *Lafayette vs. Merchants' Bank (Ark.)*, 68 L. R. A. 231, to be entitled to recover back the proceeds from the bank as money paid under mistake.

The mere extrajudicial confession of an accused is held, in *Bines vs. State (Ga.)*, 68 L. R. A. 33, not to be sufficient to establish the corpus delicti. The other authorities on proof of corpus delicti in criminal cases are collated in an elaborate note to this case.

Although a tuberculous condition of the knee of a person whose leg was injured by another's negligence develops because tuberculosis was organic in the injured person or because of mistakes in treatment it is held, in *Chicago City Railway Company vs. Saxby (Ill.)*, 68 L. R. A. 164, that it cannot be said that it was not the consequence which might not naturally follow as a result of the injury, and that therefore the negligent person may be held liable therefor.

A letter written by an accused to his wife and intercepted in transmission is held, in *Hammons vs. State (Ark.)*, 68 L. R. A. 234, to be admissible against him.

A finding by a coroner's jury, that a person came to his death by a wound inflicted by himself with suicidal intent, is held, in *Aetna Life Insurance Company vs. Milward (Ky.)*, 68 L. R. A. 285, not to be admissible in an action upon a policy of accident insurance upon his life. The admissibility of the finding of a coroner to show cause of death is the subject of a note to this case.

A creditor of one who sells his stock of goods in bulk without complying with the provisions of the statute regulating such sales is held, in *Rothschild Bros. vs. Trevela (Wash.)*, 68 L. R. A. 281, to have no right to maintain a direct action against the vendee to recover the amount of his claim, where the statute merely declares the sale void, without making any provision for an action against the vendee.

A present estate vesting at the time of delivery of the deed, but taking effect in possession at the death of the father and mother, is held in *Hunt vs. Hunt (Ky.)*, 68 L. R. A. 189, to be conveyed by the grant by the owner of land and his wife to their child in an instrument authenticated as a deed, and containing words of present grant and covenants of warranty, although it provides that "this deed is not to take effect until the death of" the grantors.

Provisions in a deed, that the house shall set back a certain distance from the street, and not extend beyond a specified depth, so as to correspond to grantor's adjoining house, and that the elevation, material, and plan shall also correspond with such house, so as to form one building, are held, in *Welch vs. Austin (Mass.)*, 68 L. R. A. 189, not to be personal to the parties, but to apply in favor of their successors in title so long as the house first built on the granted premises stands.

The drawing of a check for part of a fund on deposit by one under the fear of impending death, and delivering it to the drawee with directions to forward it to the bank, accompanied by a statement that the amount is to become the property of the drawee in case of the drawer's death, is held, in *Collins (Wash.)*, 68 L. R. A. 119, to be a sufficient gift causa mortis to prevent an escheat to the State.

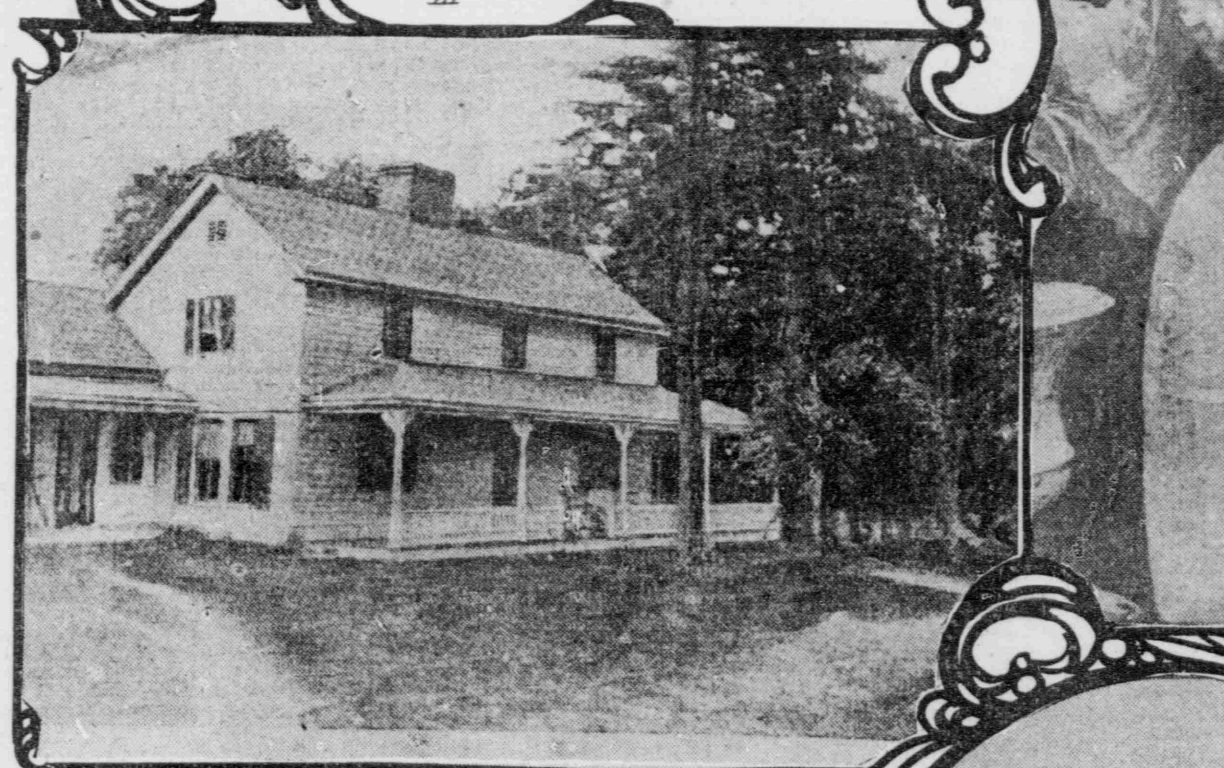
The marriage of an infant in whom a homestead has vested upon the death of the original homesteader as his surviving family is held, in *Jones vs. Crawford (Ky.)*, 68 L. R. A. 229, to terminate the homestead right under a statute providing that, upon the death of the homesteader, the homestead shall be for the use of the widow so long as she occupies it, and that the unmarried infant children of the husband shall be entitled to a joint occupancy with her.

On one trial for murder perpetrated in carrying out a conspiracy to rob is held, in *People vs. Lawrence (Cal.)*, 68 L. R. A. 182, to have no right to object to the use of the language, "even if he did not intend to take life, and regretted that it was done," in an instruction that he was guilty of murder if one of the party killed a person in carrying out the conspiracy. The other authorities on homicide in carrying out an unlawful conspiracy are collated in a note to this case.

The right to an interlocutory injunction against owners of land over a large subterranean reservoir of mineral water which comes to the surface in valuable springs on neighboring property, to prevent them from pumping the water from the reservoir through wells dug on their own property, and letting it run to waste for the purpose of injuring the owner of the springs, which have been utilized for commercial purposes, is sustained in *Gagnon vs. French Lick Springs Hotel Company (Ind.)*, L. R. A. 72.



MARSHALL FIELD III



WHERE MARSHALL FIELD WAS BORN.

Prairie avenue would be opened for a month or two early in the fall, but as a rule they were strangers to the Westerners.

The boy has had one blessing which no ill health could outweigh. He has had a devoted mother. Mrs. Field, though occupying an enviable position in society, preferred to give the greater portion of her time to her husband and her children. When she visited London recently she was shown many social attentions, but the greatest compliment she received was from the South's greatest statesmen, throughout his entire life had to carry on a ceaseless combat against disease. The old saying that Hercules in a rotten boat is powerless, has been disproven time and again. The great thinker and philosopher, Aristotle, was always infirm in body. It would seem that nature compensated these spirits by endowing them with unusual intellects

He was generous, though not to a fault. Those whom he assisted were not the recipients of charity at his hands. They were aided to work out their own salvation, not carried along and made incompetents.

The Field name is not besmirched with shady transactions, with the oppression of the poor, the corruption of city and State governments, and the evasion of the law. No legacy which Marshall Field has left to his grandson is of greater value than this, and it is the belief of all who have studied the characteristics of the growing boy, that he will not only maintain this high record of incorruptibility, but that he will add new luster to the name.

Henry and Gwendolyn are the names of the young heir's brother and sister. The former is two years Marshall's junior, while the latter is only three years old. The two brothers are great



MRS. MARSHALL FIELD



MARSHALL FIELD RESIDENCE.